IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 10 and 12-17, and amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting asymmetry in transient signals, the method comprising the steps:

asymmetrically filtering ~~(1-8)~~ an input signal to detect pre-shoots and after-shoots of transient input signals; and

comparing ~~(9-11)~~ amounts of pre-shoots and after-shoots to furnish an output signal indicating whether pre-shoots or after-shoots pre-dominate.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the step of asymmetrically filtering ~~(1-8)~~ comprises the sub-steps:

filtering ~~(1)~~ the input signals utilizing a first set of filter coefficients resulting in an impulse response arranged to provide a first output representing only the pre-shoots present in the input transient signals; and

filtering ~~(2)~~ the input signals utilizing a second set of filter coefficients resulting in an impulse response arranged to provide a second output representing only the after-shoots present in the input transient signals.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 2, wherein said first set of filter coefficients are anti-symmetrical to said second set of filter coefficients.

4. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step of asymmetrically filtering further comprises the sub-step:

calculating ~~(3, 4)~~ absolute values of the first and second outputs to give first and second absolute values, respectively.

5. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 4, wherein the step of asymmetrically filtering further comprises the sub-steps:

summing ~~(5)~~ the first absolute values over a pre-determined time interval to obtain first summed values; and

summing ~~(6)~~ the second absolute values over the pre-determined time interval to obtain second summed values.

6. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 5, wherein said pre-determined time interval comprises an interval between field pulses of a video signal.

7. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein said method further comprises the step:

averaging the output signal of the comparing step ~~(9-11) is averaged (13)~~ over a plurality of field periods to reduce field-to-field variation effects.

8. (Currently Amended) ~~A~~ The method ~~according to~~ as claimed in claim 1, wherein the output signal provides a value measure of the relative amounts of pre-shoots and after-shoots present.

9. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for detecting asymmetry in transient signals of an input signal, the apparatus comprising:

a pre-shoot filter ~~(1)~~ for receiving ~~an input signal~~ and asymmetrically filtering ~~it~~ an input signal utilizing a first set of filter coefficients to provide a first output in which substantially only pre-shoots of input transient signals are present;

an after-shoot filter ~~(2)~~ for receiving ~~the input signal~~ and asymmetrically filtering ~~it~~ the input signal utilizing a second set of filter coefficients to provide a second output in which substantially only after-shoots of input transient signals are present; and

summing and comparison means ~~(3 to 11)~~ for summing the first outputs over a predetermined time interval, for summing the second outputs over the predetermined time interval, and for comparing first and second summed outputs to give an output signal

indicating whether pre-shoots or after-shoots predominate over the predetermined time interval.

10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently Amended) A ~~peaking circuit according to claim 11, wherein said~~ peaking filter ~~(14, 15, 17)~~ for performing peaking correction on the input signal ~~comprises~~, said peaking filter comprising an FIR filter comprising:

a delay line ~~(14)~~ for receiving the input signal and having a plurality of outputs ~~(140…144)~~;

a plurality of multipliers ~~(150…154)~~ each having a first input terminal connected to a respective ~~individual output~~one of the plurality of outputs ~~(140…144)~~ of the delay line ~~(14)~~ representing a multiplicand, and each having a second input terminal for receiving a respective filter coefficient representing a multiplier, said filter coefficients being variable, and each having an output terminal for outputting a respective product; and

a summing circuit ~~(17)~~ for receiving and summing the respective products from the multipliers ~~(150…154)~~, ~~summing them~~ and providing a summed output,

wherein said peaking filter further comprises:

means for receiving a detection signal indicating whether pre-shoots or after-shoots are found to systematically predominate in transients of the input signal; and

means for varying the filter coefficients of the FIR filter in accordance with the detection signal to provide a corrected output in which transients are substantially symmetrical, wherein said varying means varies said filter coefficients ~~are variable~~ such that, if neither pre-shoots nor after-shoots are found, by said detection signal receiving means, to predominate in transients of the input signal, ~~then~~ said filter coefficients are determined purely based upon a desired amount of peaking ~~required~~, and an impulse response of the filter will be symmetrical, whereas if said detection signal receiving means determines that pre-shoots are ~~found to~~ predominate, said varying means then varies said filter coefficients ~~are varied~~ so as to provide an asymmetrical impulse response ~~in which~~ resulting in additional after-shoots ~~are~~ being produced, and if said detection signal receiving means determines that after-shoots are ~~found to~~ predominate, said varying means then varies said coefficients ~~are varied~~ so as to provide an asymmetrical impulse response ~~in which~~ resulting additional pre-shoots ~~are~~ being produced.

12-17. (Cancelled).